(ग) क्या इस गेहूं को प्राप्त करने के लिए भारत सरकार और कनाडा सरकार के बीच कतिपय शर्तों पर सहमति हुई थी ?

नागरिक पूर्ति और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद) : (क) आशा है कि कनाडा से गेहूं की पहली खेप भारत में अगस्त, 1992 में पहुंच जाएगी ।

(ख) भारतीय खाद्य निगम ने पश्चिमी, पूर्वी और दक्षिणी जोनों में आयातित गेहूं को हेंडल करने की एक अनन्तिम योजना बनाई है ।

(ग) ठेके की सामान्य शर्तों के अलावा, किन्हीं विशेष शर्तों के बारे में कोई सहमति नहीं हुई थी ।

Export of Sugar

892. SHRI PRABHAKAR B. KORE: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is actively considering the proposal to entrust the export of sugar to more than one agency;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the price of sugar in the current year; and

(c) if so, what would be the share of producers out of this increase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Government have notified the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. and the Indian Sugar and General Industry Export Import Corporation Ltd. (ISGIEIC) as the export agencies under the provisions of the Sugar Export Promotion Act, 1958. STC is handling export levy sugar to Nepal etc., while ISGI EIC is undertaking commercial exports to general currency area and preferential quota exports to EEC/USA.

(b) There is no proposal under consideration to revise the zonal ex-factory prices of levy sugar notified for sugar season 1991-92.

(c) Does not arise.

Export of Sugar by Andhra Pradesh

893. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Andhra Pradesh have sought permission to export 7.5 lakh tonnes of sugar produced in the co-operative sector in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) whether Government have agreed to the proposal; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) A reference was received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh requesting that Nizam Sugar Factory Ltd. be permitted to act as a separate agency for export of sugar. It was also suggested that this agency could collect sugar from other cooperative sugar factories for export. Export of sugar is being regulated under the proisivons of the Sugar Export Promotion Act, 1958 and the Government of India has nominated only two organisations under the provisions of the said Act as export agencies, i.e. State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. and Indian Sugar and General Industry Export and Import Corporation Ltd. In view of this, it was not possible to agree to the proposal of the State Government.

Improvement in Public Distribution System

894. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to shortage of foodgrains Public Distribution System faces difficulty in meeting the demand; and

(b) if so, the measures Government propose to take to improve the Public Distribution System?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Wheat for west Bengal

895. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have ordered a reduction in the June quota of wheat for West Bengal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the reaction of the Government of West Bengal; and

(d) by when the cut in wheat quota is likely to be restored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) The allocation of wheat from the Central Pool for Public Distribution System to West Bengal for the month of June, 1992 has been reduced by 10,000 tonnes against the level of allotment for May, 1992 because of the flush season and tight stock position.

(c) The Government of West Bengal has requested for restoration of allocation to May '92 level.

(d) Allocations of wheat and rice to the States|UTs from the Central Pool for Public Distribution System are made on a month to month basis, taking into account the demands from the States, overall availability of stocks in the Central Pool, relative needs of various States|UTs, seasonal availability and other related factors.

Black Market in Palmolein Oil

896. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain States in the country have alleged nepotism and black marketing by National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) officials in marketing palmolein oil and criticised the NDDB's role in market intervention operation (MIO);

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) A complaint was made by the Commissioner, Civil Supplies, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh in October, 1989 alleging irregularities in sale of Palmolein by NDDB. Some States like Gujarat and Maharashtra have criticised the role of NDDB in MIO.

(c) NDDB looked into the matter and found that there was no malafide in sale of palmolein. A copy of the report of the Vigilance Cell of NDDB has been sent to the Chief Vigilance Commissioner of the Government of India. The Standing Advisory Committee, Ministry of Agriculture looked into the working of MIO and concluded that nothing has intervened that would justify any radical revision in the MIO scheme.